

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 09/934,578
Attorney Docket No. Q65941

REMARKS

The Examiner has not returned a signed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 A&B filed with Applicants' Information Disclosure Statement of April 9, 2003. The Examiner is respectfully requested to initial a copy of Form PTO/SB/08 A&B and return a dated form to Applicants in the next PTO communication.

Claims 1-3 and 5-8 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claims 1-3 and 5-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Specifically, the Examiner asserted that the phrase "does not contain a filler" is inherently equivalent to "free of filler," and lacks express support. The Examiner conceded that the specification, on page 15, lines 15-16, describes "Various kinds of additives and fillers can be added optionally to the mixture," but asserted that it is not clear that the original mixture was "free of" a filler and also that what constitutes a "filler" and an "additive."

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection for at least the following reasons.

The description in the present specification implicitly discloses that the original mixture does not contain (or "free of") a filler. If the original mixture did contain a filler, it would not be logical to further elucidate that fillers can be optionally added. The term "optionally added" clearly expressly allows for two embodiments: one in which fillers are present and one in which fillers are not present. Support can also be found in the working Examples, wherein only resin/resin flowability agent/resin improving agent, but no fillers are used (Table 1).

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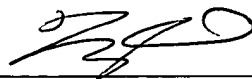
The present specification also sufficiently describes the terms “filler” and “additive.” Specifically, the term “filler” is defined on page 15, lines 20-23, as “various kinds of inorganic or organic fillers such as a calcium carbonate, a calcium sulfate, a titanium oxide, a barium sulfate, a magnesium hydroxide, clay, or the like.” The term “additive” is defined on page 15, lines 16-19, as “a heat resistance stabilizer, an antioxidant, a light stabilizer, a electrification preventing agent, a smoothing agent, a core agent, a flame retarder, a pigment or a dye.”

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the present claims are in full compliance with the §112 requirements and the rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

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